



State of Utah

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DWS News

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UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: December 2008

Salt Lake City – Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for December 2008, as generated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, contracted by 1.9 percent. November's employment profile, also an employment contraction, has been revised downward by two-tenths to -1.2 percent. Approximately 24,600 jobs have been removed from the Utah economy over the past year, lowering total wage and salary employment to 1,251,300.

Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate, jumped to 4.3 percent in December. Last December, the state's rate was 2.9 percent. Approximately 60,100 Utahns were considered unemployed in December 2008, compared against 39,600 last December, an increase of 20,500 unemployed workers. The United States unemployment rate continued to rise, reaching 7.2 percent.

An in-depth analysis of the monthly report is available on the DWS Website, jobs.utah.gov. For more information, contact the department's Chief Economist, Mark Knold at 801-526-9458.

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